

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

The final office action dated October 13, 2006 made the following rejections and objections:

- Claim 3 objected for a mis-spelled term;
- Claims 1-19 and 42-43 rejected as obvious over the combination of Tarnopol (US 3,772,075) with JP 2003-008180.

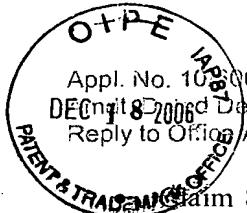
Claims 3 and 5 are canceled, obviating the objection to claim 3.

Interview Summary:

The undersigned representative and Examiner Talbot engaged in a telephone interview on November 9, 2006, during which claim 42 was discussed in particular. The undersigned stated that **a)** whereas claim 5 recites “rosin” in its closed form list of binder material, that possibility is not recited in the closed-form list of claim 42 as stated at page 5 of the Amendment dated July 19, 2006; **b)** the only reference cited against the binder materials listed at claim 5 is Tarnopol’s pine oil at col. 10 lines 5-20 as cited at page 5 of the office action dated May 2, 2006; and **c)** no other material in the closed list of claim 42 for the binder material is analogous to Tarnopol’s disclosure of pine oil or turpentine. JP 2003-008180 is not seen to disclose any of the binder materials recited in claim 42, and has not been asserted for such a teaching. Agreement was reached that claim 42 is allowable. The Examiner’s Interview Summary dated November 13, 2006 indicates also that claim 42 appears to be allowable.

In view of the above allowance of claim 42, this Amendment makes the following changes to the claims:

- Dependency of claims 2, 6, 15-16 and 18-19 is changed;
- Claim 1 is amended to recite as a dependent claim with elements not recited in claim 42;
- Claims 4, 18 and 42 are amended to recite the common American spelling of “molding”;
- Claim 4 is further amended to replace “can involve” with the more definite term “comprising”, and to eliminate “some of” which is seen as excess verbiage;
- Claim 7 is amended to recite proper antecedent basis from claim 42 and intervening claim 6;



Appl. No. 10/666,381
DECEMBER 18, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 13, 2006

Claim 8 is amended to recite proper antecedent basis from claim 7, and to eliminate
“step selected from the group consisting of” which is seen as excess verbiage.

Each of claims 1-2, 4, 6-19 and 43 depend from claim 42, which is allowed by the Examiner teleconference. Entry of this amendment is therefore requested as it puts the claims in condition for allowance. The Applicants thank the Examiner for a thorough prosecution, and request that the pending claims now be passed to issue. The undersigned representative welcomes the opportunity to resolve any matters that may remain, formal or otherwise, via teleconference at the Examiner's discretion.

Respectfully submitted:

Gerald J. Stanton
Reg. No.: 46,008

December 13, 2006

Date

Customer No.: 29683
HARRINGTON & SMITH, LLP
4 Research Drive
Shelton, CT 06484-6212
Phone: (203) 925-9400
Facsimile: (203) 944-0245
Email: gstanton@hspatent.com

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

December 13, 2006
Date

Name of Person Making Deposit